

JUNE

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Get Out

and Discover!



**Juneteenth Celebration
Returns**

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**Kicks Off
This Month!**

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**FREE Arts Festival
Coming to Maple Park**

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Juneteenth Celebration returns

On Saturday, Sunday and Monday, June 22 thru 24, Madison will observe and celebrate Juneteenth for the second time. The day has been an official federal holiday since 2021, but it took a couple of years for someone to organize local events to honor the day in our community.



CHARLIE ROHLFING
CHARLIE'S BEAT

To learn more about the story, I went right to THE source for all things relating to Black culture and history in Madison, Sue Livers. "I thought to myself, we're celebrating this important holiday on a national level now," explains Sue, "why aren't we doing something locally? So back in 2023 I started organizing and raising some funds to make it happen. We started small last year, but we have even more going on for 2024."

Before diving into details of this year's events, it would be instructive to get some background on Juneteenth. Not many people know a lot about it. "To be honest, I didn't know that much myself," admits Sue. "Nobody here in Madison celebrated or talked about it much when I was growing up. Down in Galveston and other Texas towns, where Juneteenth first happened, they've kept the flame alive, but it wasn't taught in schools and it kind of flew under the radar."

"The story of the first celebration is quite fascinating. You have to go back to Civil War times and understand what was going on then. In 1862 President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, effectively ending slavery and stating that all people were henceforth free. But of course, with the war raging across the South, the slaves weren't really free yet, and in fact, most of them didn't even know about the proclamation."

"But as the North started winning the war and opening up the South, freedom started to become a reality. But it wasn't overnight, and in fact, communication was slow or even non-existent in the deep South. People didn't hear the news, and the former slave owners weren't in a hurry to tell them."

"This all came to a head in Galveston,

Texas, on June 19th, where a group of 250,000 enslaved people were totally unaware of the changes taking place. It wasn't until Union troops, under Major General Gordon Granger, arrived in the city and went street by street, informing the people that they were free. What followed was a spontaneous celebration of joy and relief, a tradition that was repeated in the years following and dubbed 'Juneteenth'.

"Now like I said, this celebration wasn't observed in any kind of consistent or widespread way in the Black community. But the idea of it was important, and it represented something joyous and positive about being Black in our country. So over the years, there were many attempts to elevate the event to national status. There were calls during the civil rights era in the 60s, and then most recently during the Black Lives Matter protests, to enshrine the day as a national holiday."

"A woman named Opal Lee took up the cause many years ago, and is now widely considered the Grandmother of Juneteenth. Her untiring work to raise awareness for the holiday and advocate for national elevation culminated with the signing of the official act of congress in 2021. And then just this year, at age 97, she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom."

"So, thanks to all those efforts, we now have a national holiday that ensures the legacy of Juneteenth will never be forgotten, and here in Madison we are doing our part with 3 days of events and celebration."

"On Saturday, June 22, we have a 5K run/walk starting at 8:00 in the morning down near Gaines Park on lower Broadway. It will feature signage and markers at various homes along the route that help paint a picture of the Black experience in the early days in Madison. There'll be a corn hole tournament at Gaines Park at 2:00 also."

"On Sunday we'll be having the big picnic on the Lanier lawn from 3:00 to 7:00. You can bring your own food, or there will be food and drink for purchase. We'll have music, dancing, a merchant's area, all kinds of fun and celebration, just like they did in Galveston back in 1865."

"Then on Sunday, June 24, we'll be showing a Juneteenth documentary at the library at 5:30, followed by a



Sue Livers, shown standing next to a historic marker on Broadway, is considered the local source for all things relating to Black culture in Madison.

discussion. I really hope people will come out and join us to make this event special and well attended. There's so much people can learn about life in America and the history of Black culture."

"And I know I said we weren't that aware of Juneteenth as a community here in Madison when I was growing up in the 1950s, but that doesn't mean that our culture and our identity as

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**THE
MADISON COURIER**

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Students are shown inside a classroom at the Colored School on Broadway.

CELEBRATION

FROM **PAGE 3**

uniquely American wasn't strong and proud.

"Black life in Madison was largely confined to north of Third Street back in those days, and specifically the areas around where the old KDH hospital is now and over towards Springdale Cemetery. As a small young girl, that was my world, and it was rich and full of vibrant life.

"We lived at Fourth and Poplar, pretty much where the KDH parking garage is now. Reverend Gaines lived

right across the alley, and of course he was pastor at the Baptist Church on Broadway. I went to the Colored School on Broadway until the third grade when the schools were still segregated. So many great teachers, and so many fond memories from my days at that school.

"We had an entire world in those 10 or so blocks there along Crooked Creek. McGlaughlin's Grocery was there next to the Eureka Lodge on West Street. Virginia Cosby and Christine Mason ran a little restaurant on Fifth, and there was a juke joint called the Do Drop Inn run by Clay

SEE **CELEBRATION/PAGES**



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INTERPRETIVE Programs

Clifty Falls State Park
June 2024

Saturday, June 1

10am Waterfall Hike - Meet at **Clifty Shelter** for a 1 hour moderately rugged hike through one of the most scenic sections of Clifty Canyon. There's a chance to see 5 waterfalls along the way!

2pm Trail Clean-Up - In honor of National Trails Day, meet at **Oak Grove Shelter** for a 1-hour rugged hike to help pick up trash off our trails, and see our tallest waterfall along the way. Trash bags and gloves provided.

Sunday, June 2

10am Turtle Time - Discover the turtles that call Clifty Falls home and meet our live terrestrial and aquatic turtles during this 30-minute program at the **Nature Center**.

2pm Make a Sundial Necklace - Use the sun to tell the time by making your own sundial necklace during this 45-minute activity at **Poplar Grove Shelter**.

Saturday, June 8

10am Bluebird Walk - Join the naturalist at **Clifty Shelter** to check our bluebird boxes for nests, eggs, and babies on this 45-minute easy walk.

1pm Women's Hiking Group Meet-Up - Ladies! Join us for our monthly group hike where you can get outdoors and meet like-minded women. This 1-hour hike is moderately rugged. Meet at **Clifty Shelter**.

7-8pm Roving Naturalist - The naturalist will be roving through the **Campground** with an

interesting item. Can you guess what it is?

9pm Night Senses Hike - Meet at **Poplar Grove Shelter** to go on a 45-minute easy walk and see if your 5 senses match up to those of our nighttime critters. Please only bring red flashlights or cover your flashlight with some of our red cellophane to protect our night vision.

Sunday, June 9

10am Waterfall Hike - Meet at **Clifty Shelter** for a 1 hour moderately rugged hike through one of the most scenic sections of Clifty Canyon. There's a chance to see 5 waterfalls along the way!

2pm UV Bead Bracelets - Make a bracelet using beads that will change color when exposed to sunlight. This 30-minute activity will take place in the **Nature Center**.



Saturday, June 15

10am Waterfall Hike - Meet at **Clifty Shelter** for a 1 hour moderately rugged hike through one of the most scenic sections of Clifty Canyon. There's a chance to see 5 waterfalls along the way!



EVERY MONDAY

SUMMERTIME STORIES SERIES

Every Monday in June, at 10am,
Come to the Nature Center to hear a fun,
bug-themed story, and then make a fun craft to
take home with you during this 30-minute
activity.

EVERY TUESDAY

CREATURE FEATURES AT THE POOL

Every Tuesday in June, from 2:00-2:30pm,
take a break from the pool with the naturalist to
see an animal native to Clifty Falls.
Meet out on the pool lawn.



2pm All About Amphibians - From life in the water to life on land, amphibians experience it all. Come to the **Nature Center** to meet a live toad, frog, and salamander and find out what makes each one unique during this 30-minute program.

7pm Nature Photography Workshop - It's Nature Photography Day! Join guest Kevin Turner in the **Nature Center** for this 2-hour workshop to learn basic nature photography skills. Bring your own camera, or we'll have a few to borrow. The first hour we will be inside learning tips and techniques, and the second hour we will be going outside on an easy nature walk to practice our photography skills. Registration is required for this event as space is limited. Please call 812-273-0609 to register.

Sunday, June 16

10am Possum' Palooza - Opossums are quite an oddity in the animal world, but they are very beneficial to us. Find out about Indiana's only marsupial during this 45-minute program at the **Nature Center**. You will have a chance to make your own opossum craft to take home with you!

2pm Make Your Own Seed Paper - Join the naturalist at the **Nature Center** to make your own paper that has native flower seeds in it during this 45-minute activity. You can even write a special message on the paper and give it as a gift!

DNR
Indiana Department
of Natural Resources



CELEBRATION

FROM **PAGE 3**

Jordan down near the cemetery. Oh my, the music that came out of that place!

“Bill Smith, the famous jewelry and fashion designer, lived right across the street from us. We had our own playground down near John Paul Park. Of course, we weren’t welcome at the other city playgrounds, but we were young and didn’t know the difference, we just played and played. There was even a little park right where Sixth Street meets West, by the Alcorn law office today, where we would make up games and pass the time.

“In time I grew up and went away to college, to Manchester University up north, where I was one of just four Black students. It was the 60s and there was so much going on. I actually got to meet Dr. Martin Luther King when he would visit the college! But I always knew I’d be coming back to Madison, even though so many of my friends and family were moving on and looking for a better life.

“I wanted to be a part of the change that was coming, and I wanted Madison to share in that. That’s why I’ve always been so active in sharing Black history and the Black experience. Locals are probably familiar with the reenactment character I do based on Patsy Harris, wife of the great abolitionist and underground railroad conductor, Chapman Harris.

“I believe that if we take the time to listen to each other and communicate



Shown riding his motorcycle in Robert Cosby, a Sunday school teacher in Madison.

our viewpoints we will come to see that we really aren’t that different. I try to use my encounters with people as teaching moments, to help them understand my experience and give them some perspective.

“You know, the segregation and the discrimination, it wasn’t that long ago. Certainly within my lifetime I’ve seen some improvement in some areas. Even some hope in certain things. But we’re not there yet, make no mistake. We can’t let our guard down. Things can backslide.

“I’m here with my positive attitude and my vision for the future. I’m here with my story and my window into the past, sharing the rich contributions that Black people made in our community. I’m ready to have that conversation with anybody who really wants to learn. That’s my invitation to Madison. Let’s meet on the lawn at Lanier Mansion on June 23rd and celebrate our national day of freedom.”

Shown in this 1918 image are nine Black men from Jefferson County who enlisted to fight in World War I.



This 1918 photo shows nine African American men from Jefferson County who enlisted in the U.S. Army to fight in World War I. Information with the photo, which is in the digital archives at the Jefferson County Historical Society’s History Center, names five of the men but in no particular order: Robert Perry, brothers Oren and Oscar Sanders, Sam Carver and Harrison Cook. Also pictured are Harrison and William Buckner, second and third from the left in the front row. The brothers are listed in the “Gold Star Honor Roll” of Indiana residents who died during the war, both succumbing to disease after arriving in France just two months after this photo was taken. (Photo courtesy of the Jefferson County Historical Society).

JUNE 19TH

JUNETEENTH

FREEDOM DAY



Shown is the historic Colored School on Broadway.



Shown is a team comprised of only Black men before integration in Madison.

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Oldham County is swimming in events

BY HELEN MCKINNEY

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OLDHAM COUNTY TOURISM & CONVENTIONS

June combines hot daytime happenings with cool nights under the stars in Oldham County for various fun things to do.

Make Oldham County your perfect weekend getaway as summer kicks in. From one-tank trips to an extended stay, Oldham County has you covered when it comes to fun. From summertime attractions like Falling Rock Park La Grange Quarry (adults only), unique art festivals, 13 Farm Tours that make Oldham the Farm Tour Capital of Kentucky, gardens and nature centers, Underground Railroad history, and bourbon entertainment – you'll kick off summer with a bang and

make memories to last a lifetime.

EXPERIENCE THE NEXT LEVEL OF ART

Don't miss the "Hero's" Art Show at Gallery 104 in La Grange. This show runs May 28th - June 22nd from 10 am–4 pm and is a competitive art show open to all mediums. The artwork is based on the theme of heroes as it relates to the artist. The Opening Reception for "Hero's" will be held on Thursday, May 30th. Admission is FREE.

Visit historic Main Street La Grange for the annual La Grange Arts Fest 2024 on June 1st from 10 am - 4 pm. Check out the fun, new mix of music, arts & crafts in the Main Street La Grange District as you shop for hand-created items from a variety of vendors, artists,

artisans, makers and creators. FREE Admission.

Make plans to visit Goin' to Market: Red, White & Boutiques at CityPlace Expo Center in La Grange on June 1st (10 am – 5 pm) and June 2nd (10 am – 4 pm). Enjoy an incredible selection of handmade crafts, jewelry, home decor with vendors inside and outside offering their finest creations, and food trucks. FREE admission.

The 24th annual Arts on the Green returns to the beautiful 22-acre Maples Park in Crestwood, KY on June 8th (10am – 5pm) & June 9th (10am – 4pm). Grab a bite from a variety of food trucks, enjoy local entertainment, kids' activities, Emerging Artists, demonstrations, beer & wine. FREE admission & parking, shuttle buses to and from designated parking sites (Crestwood

Elementary School and the Oldham County Schools Arts Center). Come out and see some of the most amazing local, regional, and national artists displaying and selling their handcrafted items.

"Monochromatic" is a competitive show open to all mediums at Gallery 104 from June 25th – July 27th. An Opening Reception will be held on Thursday, June 27th. The Arts Association operates Gallery 104 in La Grange, which displays a variety of artwork such as ceramics, jewelry, paintings and fiber art.

FUN FOR THE KIDDOS

Join staff at Yew Dell Botanical Gardens each Saturday in June (1, 8, 15,

SEE **EVENTS/PAGE 9**

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EVENTS

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22 & 29) from 10:30 am – 12 pm for the ever popular Children in the Dell 2024. These drop-in sessions focus on children's garden-themed books and hands-on activities for an informal education experience. Included with Admission price.

FARMER'S MARKETS & MORE

The FREE La Grange Farmers' Market & Artisans is a Kentucky Proud Market. Shop for locally grown fruits, veggies, meat, honey, goods from artisans and more at the Springs Park every Saturday in June (1, 8, 15, 22 and 29) from 9 am - 1 pm. Market continues through October 26th at the Farmer's Market Pavilion at Springs Park.

Experience the charm of country living at Oldham Gardens Country Market. Spend June mornings (1, 8, 15, 22 and 29) from 10 am - 2 pm shopping small in Crestwood from local farmers and artisans. You'll find a showcase of the region's best harvest and craftsmanship, from farm-fresh produce bursting with flavor to handcrafted goods. While there, enjoy a craft beer or mimosa while you shop! FREE admission.

Experience the magic of local organic agriculture with Rootbound Farm's Farm-to-Table Dinner on June 8th from 5 - 8 pm. Enjoy a tour of a working organic farm, followed by an inspired dinner and drinks curated by Farm to Fork Catering. Dine al fresco with friends under the big farm sky and savor the bounty of the harvest. Drinks 5 – 5:30 pm, Walking Tour 5:30 – 6:15 pm, Dinner 6:30 – 8 pm. \$75 per person.

HIKE OLDHAM COUNTY

Join the Oldham County Cooperative Extension Office for Walk KY to walk 417 miles across Kentucky! Join in as a team or solo every Wednesday in June. FREE.

Botany, geology, history...you'll find it all along Yew Dell Botanical Garden's hiking trails on the Guided Hike for National Trails Day on June 1st from 1 – 2 pm. Let naturalist Brad Kessans help you see Yew Dell's natural areas in a whole new way. Terrain is relatively easy on this one mile walk. Included with admission price.

Visit Creasey Mahan Nature Preserve for an easy hike to explore the preserve and learn about mulberry trees for a Mulberry Foray on June 12th from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Sweet and

flavorful, mulberries can be made into jams, pies, preserves, and many other culinary masterpieces. All hikes - Donation: \$11/person, \$6/members, Children 6 and younger are FREE.

Take a Late Spring Birding Hike on June 14th from 5:30 – 7:30 pm with Creasey Mahan staff to view the many species of birds that inhabit the preserve. Buntings, Tanagers, Cuckoos, Vireos, and warblers can all be seen during this time of year. As birds will be singing, nesting, and raising their young in preserve's varied habitats. Bring binoculars and footwear for this moderate level hike.

Turtles, lizards, frogs, salamanders and snakes all enjoy the warm weather that June provides for the Kentucky landscape. Take a Reptiles & Amphibians Hike with staff from Creasey Mahan around the preserve on June 21st from 5:30-7:30 pm. Hike level is moderate.

DISCOVER THE HIDDEN HISTORY OF OLDHAM COUNTY

Enjoy a Hidden History Walking Tour on June 1st from 9– 11 am led by Dr. Nancy Theiss Executive Director of the Oldham County History Center. This tour is based on her book, Hidden History of La Grange Kentucky. Tour will start at the Peyton Samuel Head Family Museum at the History Center campus. Free for Members/\$5 Non-Members.

Join the Oldham County History Center and the Oldham County Beekeepers Association for Barnyard Fun! Busy Bees Day on June 1st. The OCBA will have on display one of its travelling hives so visitors can see these busy bees at work! Barnyard Fun! – Flag Day takes place on June 8th from 10 am – 12 pm with the Daughters of the American Revolution. Enjoy hands-on activities for families during the June 22nd and June 29th Barnyard Fun! programs, themes to be announced. These FREE programs take place at the Dahlgren Pioneer Barn from 10 am – 12 pm.

Learn some fascinating local history on the Underground Railroad Car Tour on June 8th from 10:30 am - 1:30 pm. Tour is led by Dr. Nancy Theiss, author of A Tour of the Underground Railroad Along the Ohio River and Executive Director of the Oldham County History Center, which holds two designations on the National Park Service to the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom. Participants will drive to specific sites of activities relating to Freedom Seekers during antebellum era in Oldham County, including grave sites, auction sites and house sites. Must register. \$10 per person.

Join the Oldham County History Center for their FREE Juneteenth Celebration on June 15th from 10 am – 6 pm. Celebration will include Black vendors, artists, craftsman, food trucks, authors, theatrical and musical performances, Indoor Exhibits (Local Art Contest Winners, Black History Exhibit featuring Oldham County's Civil War African American soldiers), and an Awards Ceremony for the 2024 Elijah Marrs Award Recipient. Additional entertainment includes Special Guest singers and Speakers, and the 12th U.S. Colored Heavy Artillery Infantry Encampment. Food, fire truck, stilt walker, bouncy house, and more! It is a full day of fun, remembrance, and celebration!

CATCH THE MAGIC THAT IS YEW DELL

Calling all fairies, gnomes, dwarves, and elves - kick off Fairy Month at Yew Dell Botanical Gardens with Garden Fairy Day 2024!, a day devoted to the all the petite pixies that inhabit the gardens! On June 2nd from 12 – 4 pm visit new fairy houses in the Fairy Forest, a gnome adventure along the woodland trails, fairy forest scavenger hunts and guided, and hands-on activities. Martha Lee's Kitchen will be open for this special day in the garden. Included with admission/tickets available at arrival.

Register now for Mythbusting – Mindfulness in the Garden Workshop, an opportunity to shift from myths about mindfulness to a restorative shift in wellbeing on June 23rd from 1 - 3 pm. Karen Newton, Wellbeing & Resilience Integrator, and Yoga/Meditation Teacher, Emily Smith, will guide a variety of meditation forms, with Yew Dell Botanical Garden's soothing grounds and gardens as the backdrop. Cost.

It's been a secret but, Yew Dell Botanical Garden's wildly popular series makes its return with Secret Garden Party, a magical and mysterious garden event. On June 13th from 4 - 8 pm the evening kicks off at Yew Dell, then participants will shuttle to a nearby garden, nursery and cut flower farm for scrumptious food, delightful drink and engaging tours of the gardens, greenhouse and grounds. Time slots are 4 - 7 pm, and 5 – 8 pm. Limited space. \$120 - \$130 per person.

Take a walk on the wild side with Yew Dell Botanical Garden's Nursery & Greenhouse Manager, Jeff Margreiter, as he leads you on the Native Plants at Yew Dell Workshop. Take a tour on June 20th from 6 – 7:30 pm of the native plants of the arboretum, gardens, and natural areas, and many plants in the collections you may

not even realize are natives along with a deep dive into the botanical history of their woodlands. \$40 - \$50 per person. Ticket includes a native plant grown in the nursery.

SUMMER IS THE BEST TIME FOR CONCERTS

Make plans to attend Whiskey Wednesday at Oldham Gardens in June (5th, R & R 3; 12th Mark Conover, 19th Allen Lane; & 26th, Andrew Lee) from 6 – 9 pm. Enjoy an electrifying evening of music and spirits at this weekly concert series. Immerse yourself in a captivating blend of live performances while indulging in an exquisite selection of Jefferson's products. FREE admission/cost for food and drinks.

Come to La Grange for the La Grange Main Street Program's annual Tracksides Tunes Concert Series on June th from 7 - 9 pm. These FREE monthly concerts take place through October. June's concert will feature the Doorway- Doors Tribute Band. Concerts take place at the corner of Walnut Avenue and Main Street. Bring your own chairs/Food trucks and adult beverages beginning at 6 pm. In the event of rain, concerts are held at Springs Park Pavilion.

The hottest event of the summer returns as the monthly Dan-O's Sizzling Summer Series resumes at Oldham Gardens! Get ready to groove to the rhythm of live bands all season long, brought to you by Dan-O's Seasoning. Bring your friends, family, and appetite for great music from The Aesthetic on June 8th from 6 – 9 pm. FREE admission/Cost for food & drink.

Pickin on the Porch with Shayla McGuire will take place at Knock on Wood Mercantile & Café on June 29th from 6 – 9 pm. This popular series brings great musical talent every month to Westport, KY where you'll find front porch sitting fun the last Saturday of the month May through September. FREE admission/Cost for food & drink.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

Flemming: (An American Thriller) is the latest play by the Little Colonel Playhouse performed June 1st, 6th, 7th, 8th (7:30 – 10 pm) and June 2nd & 9th (2 – 5 pm). Bored by his privileged but mundane life, Henry Flemming sells his lucrative brokerage firm to become a detective. On his very first case, and to the horror of his wife, Karen, and their two crazy neighbors, Suzy and Stan, the Flemming living room begins to fill up with dead bodies! Tickets: Adults – \$19/Seniors/Students – \$17.

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REVerie Roads kicks off this month

BY ANDREW FORRESTER
EXECUTIVE TOURISM DIRECTOR, VISIT MADISON INC.

If you haven't heard, the accolades just keep coming after Madison was named the Best Small Town in the Midwest by USA Today in April. Now in May, Madison was named a "Great American Main Street" Winner by Main Street America. This award is the nation's top award recognizing communities for their excellence in preservation-based commercial district revitalization. So why go anywhere else, when you can experience a Great American Main Street right here in southern Indiana.

Summer is in full swing in our award-winning community, and that includes events, festivals, outdoor activities, and a new experience for all car, motorcycle, and road enthusiasts!

HIGHWAYS & BYWAYS

I'm most excited to share with you about the opening of "REVerie Roads", which will officially start with a ribbon cutting on Saturday, June 8th at 9:30am on Madison's Riverfront. REVerie Roads are road routes all around Madison that highlight the scenic landscape, hidden gems, hills, curves, and history of southern Indiana and regional Kentucky back roads.

The highlight of this route is the Serpent of 62, which features 1,000 curves in 100 miles. Where else can you go to get that kind of adventure? This trail will be a highlight of your time on the road, whether you're in a Jeep, classic car, modern sports car, motorcycle, or something in between. If you like to rev your engine, or coast like it's a Sunday drive, REVerie Roads will give you a lot of fun.

All trails are designed to start and end in Madison and to be driven any time you want to come to Madison. So come stay, take a ride or a drive around the area, then return to Madison to shop, eat, and stay the night!

EVERYDAY FUN IN MADISON

Just want some everyday fun in Madison? I'd recommend bringing your camper to stay at Riverview Campground where you can wake up next to the scenic Ohio River. Then head up to Acree Alley Carts and rent a golf cart for the weekend to ride around Madison and see it like the locals do.

While you're at Acree Alley, take a step in next door to check out Thomas Family



Submitted photos

The highlight of REVerie Roads is the Serpent of 62, which features 1,000 curves in 100 miles. Where else can you go to get that kind of adventure?

Winery. This winery has cool vibes, live music every Saturday, wine, and delectable rustic breads baked onsite and cheeses to accompany the fruit of the vine.

HOOSIER HISTORY

Of course, Madison's Historic District doesn't lack things to do with history. Once an annual celebration of Madison's history, Lanier Day is back at the Lanier Mansion State Historic Site! This year's event will take place from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday, June 1. Visitors will enjoy reenactors, storytelling, music, family activities, vendors and more both indoors and outdoors. Admission for Lanier Day is free, and the event will be held rain or shine.

One of my favorite properties (and open to the public on select days) is St. Michael the Archangel, and tours are available there on June 8th for \$10. It's worth a visit!

On June 15th, enjoy free fun with an Architectural Walking Tour at 10am at the Broadway Fountain and then head down to the Lanier Mansion to enjoy FREE day at Lanier on June 15th.

Tours at various Madison historic sites are available daily, just call or stop by the Visitors Center to find out when they're happening.

MUSIC IN THE MUSIC CITY

There's no lack of music in Indiana's Music City, with live music every weekend at various venues around

town. But a few of the most exciting opportunities for music include events at Red Bicycle Hall. John Moreland (who sold out Red Bike last year!) comes to town on June 7, and is back for more in 2024.

On June 13th, check out Zacaraiah Malachi & The Nashville Counts with Anthony Ray Wright Band. They have a captivating blend of Americana, soul, and rock. Then don't miss local legend Jimmy Davis, who is having an album release show on June 29th. Tickets for those shows at Red Bicycle Hall are available at tickets.madtixevents.com.

If free music is more your style, don't miss Music in the Park's kick-off show on Friday, June 14th. This summer series at Bicentennial Park is put on by the Madison Main Street Program and are so much fun. Bring your lawn chair, enjoy some food from food trucks, and great music in the park.

EXPLORE THE OUTDOORS

I'm really excited about a new event here in Madison on June 8th called "Board & Brunch". In this, fun event, embark on a thrilling 1.5-hour paddleboarding journey along the tranquil waters of the Ohio River. Led by an experienced instructor, dive into this aquatic adventure whether you're a seasoned paddler or a novice. Immerse yourself in the stunning surroundings, glide through picturesque waterways, and forge cherished memories that will last a

lifetime. Then, indulge in brunch at The Attic Coffee Mill Café. Tickets are \$79 or \$99 depending on whether you bring your own board. After that, ladies can enjoy a women's hike at Clifty Falls State Park, while guys may want to go golfing at Eagle Haven Golf Course or Sunrise Golf Course.

Another outdoor event for ladies is the Outdoor Women at Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge. This one-day event is set-up for outdoor learning just for women, ages 12 & up who want to learn basic outdoor skills and outdoor appreciation through courses such as fishing, canoeing, bird watching, archery, and much more. Call 812-273-0783 for more info or to reserve a spot.

BIG EVENTS

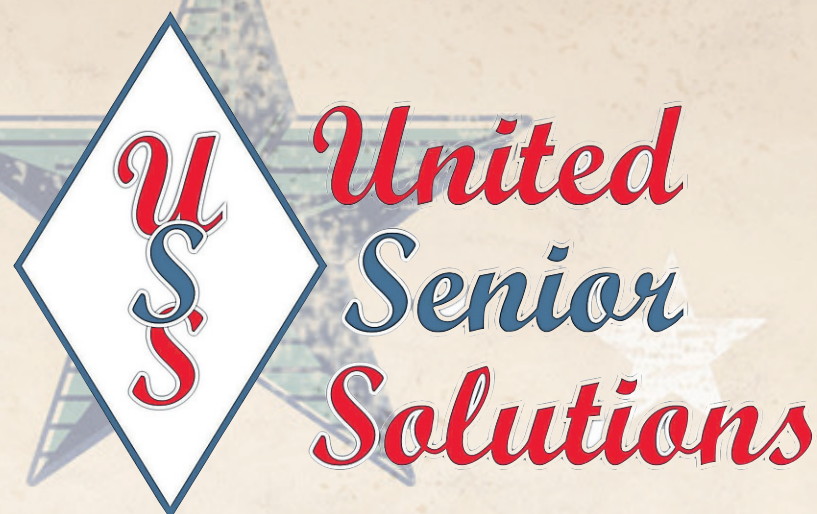
A couple big events are happening in Madison in June. First, Madison in Bloom makes a big comeback in 2024. This spring garden tour, featuring beautiful and unique private gardens with the historic district happens on two weekends biennially. June 8-9 and June 15-16, tour seven private gardens in the historic district on Sat 10am-4pm & Sun 12pm-4pm. Price is \$30, Children 12 and under are Free. \$25 Advance Ticket Price through May 15th, 2024. Call 812-265-2335 for more details. Go to www.MadisoninBloom.com or the History & Art Center for tickets and details.

Also, on June 15th (there's a lot happening that weekend!), you may want to indulge yourself at Madison's Riverfront Wine Stein & Barrel. This upscale and fun event is a fundraiser for the continued beautification of Madison's riverfront. Music, art, a live auction, food, select wine, bourbon and beer. Call 513-213-5051. Tickets are \$35/person or reserve a table of 10 for \$350.00. Individual tickets can be purchased at the door.

LOOKING AHEAD TO JULY

Looking ahead, make plans now (and get your hotel rooms!) to come to the Madison Regatta and Roostertail Music Festival. This phenomenal annual event combines fast boats during the day with awesome music in the evening, and lots of other festival events in-between like the Mayor's Movies in the Park on July 3rd, the annual Hometown USA Parade on July 5th, and the free fireworks extravaganza on July 6th. Don't be the one who misses this year's event!

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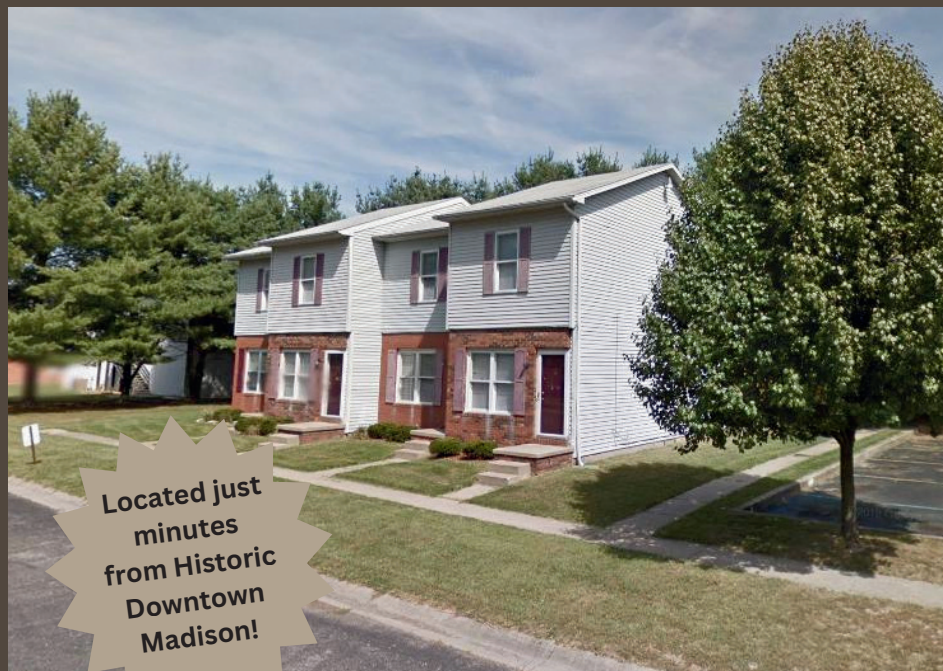


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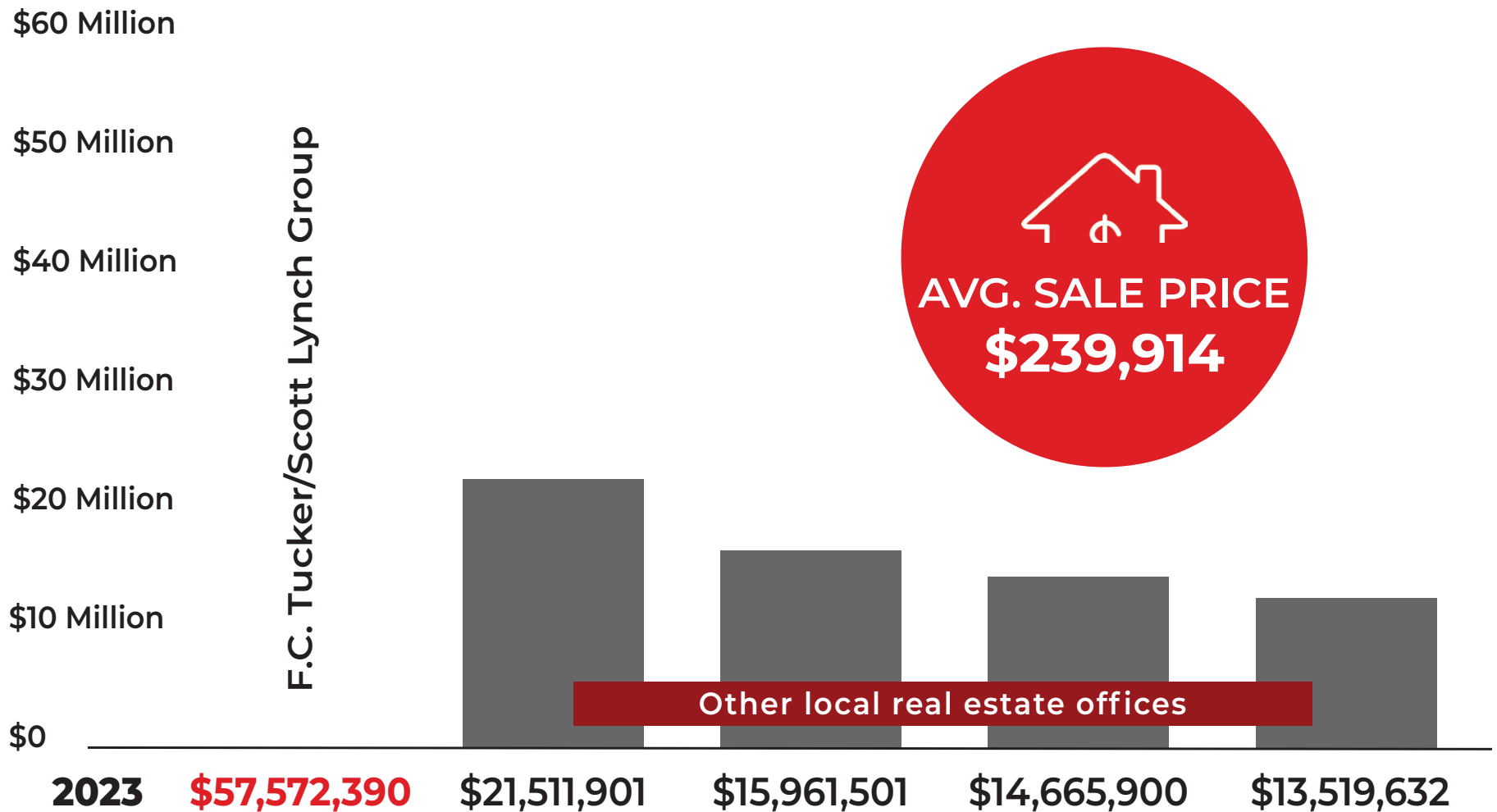
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receiving maximum benefits, especially if there has been a change in your Medicaid status. If you are covered by Medicare and not sure if you qualify for Medicaid, give Justin a call to set up an appointment to discuss eligibility. Many citizens are unaware of the added benefits of dual coverage. United Senior Solutions can also help in selecting the best individual insurance plan for those not covered by Medicare

under the Affordable Care Act. United Senior Solutions also offers group insurance coverage options for small businesses. United Senior Solutions is an independent broker that specializes in Medicare Supplements, senior market products and services. They provide their expertise for free consultations to help you find what would best serve you.

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Contact agent Justin Lucas of United Senior Solutions for questions or concerns regarding this year's Medicare Open Enrollment Period.



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INTERPRETIVE Programs

Clifty Falls State Park June 2024

Saturday, June 22

- **10am Bluebird Walk** - Join the naturalist at **Clifty Shelter** to check our bluebird boxes for nests, eggs, and babies on this 45-minute easy walk.
- **2pm Pollinator Promenade** - It's Pollinator Week! Meet at the outdoor Pool to search for butterflies, bees, hummingbirds and more! Discover the unique lives of our pollinators during this 45-minute program that includes a scavenger hunt.
- **6-7pm Roving Naturalist** - The naturalist will be roving through the Campground with an interesting item. Can you guess what it is?
- **8:30pm Chimney Swift Chatter** - Explore the lives of these exceptionally talented birds, that can eat, drink, and bathe, all while flying! Join us at Poplar Grove Shelter where we will end our 45-minute program by observing the chimney swift tower to look and listen for any birds that may enter to roost overnight.

Sunday, June 23

- **10am Waterfall Hike** - Meet at Clifty Shelter for a 1 hour moderately rugged hike through one of the most scenic sections of Clifty Canyon. There's a chance to see 5 waterfalls along the way!
- **2pm How to be a Citizen Scientist** - Did you know you can contribute to research just by observing nature in your own backyard? Join the naturalist at the Nature Center to find out how you can become a citizen scientist during this 45-minute program.



Friday, June 28

- **8pm Vintage Camper Craft for Kids** - Come to the Campground Amphitheater to design your own vintage camper using paper plates and all kinds of embellishments during this 30-minute activity. Display yours at your campsite or at home!

Saturday, June 29

- **11am Stream Safari** - Gather at the outdoor Pool to take a short easy hike down the trail to explore one of the many streams in our park. We'll search for insects, salamanders, fish, and more! Be

sure to wear your water shoes and be prepared to get your feet wet during this 45-minute program.

- **1pm-4pm Vintage Camper Rally** - Come to the Campground and walk around to the area of campsites 6-8 and 42-88 to tour vintage campers, most from the 1950's-1970's.

Sunday, June 30

- **10am Waterfall Hike** - Meet at Clifty Shelter for a 1 hour moderately rugged hike through one of the most scenic sections of Clifty Canyon. There's a chance to see 5 waterfalls along the way!
- **2pm Ewww, It's a Tick!** - Come to the Nature Center to discover the different species of ticks in Indiana. How do they find and attach themselves to you? How do you properly remove a tick? How can you prevent tick bites? Find out all the answers to these questions and more during this 30-minute program.

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Arts on the Green showcases fine art, food trucks, live entertainment and more

BY HELEN E. MCKINNEY
DIRECTOR, ARTS ON THE GREEN

When organizers began Arts on the Green (AOG) in 1999, they had no idea how the juried arts and crafts festival would grow into an amazing two-day event featuring the best local, regional and national artists to be found. What they did know, was that they had an incredible concept that was worth promoting.

Artists Donna Miller and Sandra Graves put their heads together to create an event that has lasted 24 years. Both women were founding members of the Arts Association of Oldham County (AAOC), the 501(c)(3) non-profit entity that hosts Arts on the Green and runs Gallery 104 in La Grange, KY. Both had previous experience with outdoor art shows and laid the ground work for the first show.

For many years it was held on the grounds of the Oldham County Courthouse. Due to a judicial center expansion, the event relocated to its current location in Crestwood, KY at the 22-acre Maples Park, a park owned and managed by the City of Crestwood.

Arts on the Green, a juried fine arts and crafts festival, will take place on Saturday, June 8 (10 am – 5 pm) and Sunday, June 9 (10 am – 4 pm). Artwork will be judged by professional jurors and awards and cash prizes given in the categories of: ceramics, paintings, sculpture, glass, fiber, jewelry, metal, photography, wood, digital art, drawing, 2D and 3D mixed media.

“The quality of artists who jury into AOG at The Maples Park is paramount to the success of the festival,” said Jim Cheski, AAOC President. “We look for creativity,



Photo furnished

Kim Mahlbacker displays a ribbon she won during last year's event.

originality, craftsmanship, adoption of established design principles and the body of work by the artist. All art must be created and produced by the artist and we even evaluate photographs of previous booth displays for artful display and ergonomics.”

You'll find exceptional artists such as last year's Best of Show winner, Kim Mahlbacker. A fiber artist, her piece “Imagined Real” quickly caught the eye of the judges. Mahlbacker, who lives in Anchorage, KY, said her handcrafted artwork “encompasses woodland creatures, faeries and animal faeries, animals wild and domestic, gentle

Nativities, and the garden. I try to reflect my love of nature in each piece, and to capture a whimsical joy-filled spirit where there's a gentle smile, a mischievous wink, or imaginations from childhood.”

Henry County, KY artist Kathy Conroy, is an award-winning fine arts scratchboard (also known as clayboard etching) artist with over 35 years of experience in all mediums. Wildlife art is her specialty and passion. She creates one-of-a-kind original artwork that puts the viewer close to nature.

Dawn Hatzidakis is a Crestwood, KY metalsmith jeweler who designs and

creates every piece for her business, Designs By Dawn. Drawn to copper because of its ability to change colors, bend and fold, she has spent countless hours learning and mastering the art of patinas and metalsmithing. She often incorporates additional materials such as gemstones, leather, polymer clay and beads. Dawn also teaches classes on jewelry making.

Charlestown, IN based artist, Mike Miller, creates a variety of wood turned objects for his business, Mike's Creative Woodworks. He is widely known for his wooden walking sticks, vases and popular koozies – a great Father's Day gift. He has participated in many fine art shows.

Last year's show brought in over 80 artists, including a dozen from Oldham County, 20+ from out of state, and 50 artists from across the state as well. This show gives artists an opportunity to display and sell handcrafted items and vie for monetary awards, ribbons and the coveted Best of Show designation.

The festival includes local musical entertainment and an Emerging Artists booth representing work created by students of the Oldham County Schools Art Center. Attendees will be able to cast votes for their favorite student artwork and the winning student will receive a People's Choice Award.

A children's activity booth will be set up with crafts and hands-on activities, staffed by volunteers from local organizations such as Yew Dell Botanical Gardens, AAOC artists, Bounce Back Gymnastics and the Little Colonel Playhouse. The park features a splashpad and playground area for kids.

“It's a community oriented, free, family-friendly event featuring high-quality art at affordable prices with great festival food and drinks for sale and daily musical entertainment,” said Cheski. Many local sponsors have donated funds to ensure that this high quality destination art show continues to fill the expectations of participating artists and the community as well.

AAOC is partnering with the Louisville Food Truck Association (LFTA) which will provide 15 food trucks daily. There will also be a free shuttle bus, transporting attendees to and from The Maples Park and two designated public parking sites: Crestwood Elementary School and the Oldham County Schools Arts Center. Additional parking is located at the Crestwood United Methodist Church both days (but after 1 pm on Sunday). Handicap parking and transport will be available on site, as will be artist parking.

When AOG celebrated its 20 year milestone, former Director Mary Klausing remarked it had lasted for two decades because “of dedicated people who love the arts and want the arts to be a part of this community.”

She went on to say that, “Whether to appreciate someone else's creativity or enhance your own, the arts pops up everywhere in our day-to-day lives. It is a positive and a bright light that awakens the spirit and the soul.”

For more information contact Helen McKinney, 2024 AOG Director, artsongreen@aaoc.org, (502) 487-0379 or The Arts Association of Oldham County, execdir@aaoc.org, (502) 222-3822 or visit www.aaoc.org.

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